

To: Miller, Ann[ann_miller@ios.doi.gov]
Cc: Sally Butts[sbutts@blm.gov]; Simon, Benjamin[benjamin_simon@ios.doi.gov]; Nikki Moore[nmoore@blm.gov]; Fisher, Timothy[tjfisher@blm.gov]
From: Wootton, Rachel
Sent: 2017-07-13T14:05:21-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: BLM economic snapshots
Received: 2017-07-13T14:06:39-04:00
[Economic Snapshots revised 07.12.2017.xlsx](#)

Hi Anne,

Thank you for your email and chatting with us over the phone. As discussed, I've included the updated spreadsheet. This information was used to create the updated economic snapshots on the drive. FY16 visitation information has not changed. Feel free to let us know if you all need additional information or would like it in a different format. I am not sure what spreadsheet you all received initially, but we could certainly put it in that format if need.

Please let us know if you have any questions and thanks again!

Best,

Rachel

--

Rachel Wootton
Planning and Environmental Specialist
National Conservation Lands (WO-410)
Bureau of Land Management
20 M Street SE Washington, DC 20003
rwootton@blm.gov
desk - (202) 912-7398
cell - (202) 774-8791

[Visit us online!](#)

On Thu, Jul 13, 2017 at 1:15 PM, Miller, Ann <ann_miller@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Hi Sally,

I understand that the economic snapshots in the google drive for the BLM monuments under review were updated with revisions to the FY14 and FY15 visitor data. I believe we have the underlying source data for the visitation levels (this analysis of the economic contributions of National Monuments and NCAs had been shared with us separately) and in comparing it to the updated snapshots, I found a handful of monuments where the data presented in the snapshots do not match the underlying data. I confirmed that it is unlikely the that underlying source data has changed since it was shared with us so I think it may be worth checking that the data in the economic snapshots is correct. The issue I found is consistent across a handful of monuments, and it is that the FY15 visitation numbers are being presented in the FY14 box of the snapshot and the numbers being presented in the FY15 box

of the snapshot are another number (I can't match it up with anything in the source data we were given). The snapshots that I found this issue with are:

- Canyons of the Ancients
- Carrizo Plain
- Craters of the Moon
- Upper Missouri River Breaks
- Cascade-Siskiyou
- Grand Staircase-Escalante

Thanks

Ann

--

Ann Miller
Office of Policy Analysis
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C St. NW
Washington, DC
p: 202.208.5004
ann_miller@ios.doi.gov

[illegible]

This spreadsheet is designed to generate reports on the economic effects associated with the National Monuments and NCAs program of the BLM. The reports provide information on the output, jobs and incomes supported by National Conservation Lands visitors, displayed in table 1. These figures are put in context in table 3 by representing the output supported per dollar of funding and per acre. In general the per-funding dollar and per-acre totals are not a representation of "return on investment," in that economic contributions are a measure of economic activity. This is the buying and selling of goods and services supported in a region by the visitor spending on trip-related purchases that takes place in that region. Revenues collected are shown in table 2, along with budget and the value of volunteer hours. Revenues are from a variety of activities, from recreation to range management, and timber to lands and realty. Visitation growth rates are shown in the upper row of tables. This is the average annual growth rate of visitation and the median annual growth rate of visitation to the unit. Visitation estimates sometimes change dramatically from year to year as new methods of estimation are used, or as new staff takes over. Thus, some growth rates have a high variability. An average growth rate that is close in magnitude to the median annual growth rate likely represents a more representative growth rate for the unit. The growth rate is important to economic analysis, since a unit experiencing rapid visitation growth will also be generating greater and greater economic contributions to the local economy. Although visitation growth presents management challenges, it boosts both economic contributions and nonmarket values.

Data Sources and Methods

| | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Visitation: | As reported in the office, RMA, or site that is listed for the unit, from report #23c in BLM's Recreation Management Information System (RMIS). Visits, not visitor days, are used. |
| Visitation Growth Rates: | Growth rates were determined by calculating the annual rate of change of visitation for each year between 1999 and 2016 at each individual unit. For units that did not report visitation back to 1999, all of the most recent years were used. This was the case for all recent (since 2013) designations as well as Prehistoric Trackways, Sloan Canyon, Beaver Dam Wash, Ironwood Forest, Agua Fria, and California Coastal National Monuments and NCAs. The average and median of these annual growth rates was calculated in Excel. |
| FY 15 Budget: | The FY 2015 budget was taken directly from the 2015 National Monument Manager's Reports' "total budget" column. Note that this is different than the total program funding that comes from the National Monuments and NCAs program budget. |
| Volunteer Hours: | Total volunteer hours were taken from the 2015 National Monument Manager's Reports. The "Value" row was calculated by multiplying the total volunteer hours by the official value of a volunteer hour for 2016 as taken from the individual state values from: https://www.independentsector.org/resource/the-value-of-volunteer-time/ |
| Revenue: | Revenue is listed as the amount reported for FY2016 in the BLM's Collections and Billing System (CBS) based on the Cost Centers provided for each unit. Several units did not report any revenue, while others seem to have reported revenue, but the amount was reported under other cost centers. Actual collections may for this reason be different than the reported amount. |



Regional Economic Contributions of National Monuments and National Conservation Areas

| | |
|------------------|------------------------|
| Site Name | All Monuments and NCAs |
| State | All |
| Designation Date | - |

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| Visits (2016) | 8,671,083 |
| 15yr Average Annual Visitation Growth | 5.43% |
| 15yr Median Annual Visitation Growth | 2.01% |

| | |
|--|------------|
| Acres | 12,230,366 |
| NPS Comparison Site used for Visitor Characteristics | 0 |

2016 Visitor Spending by Sector

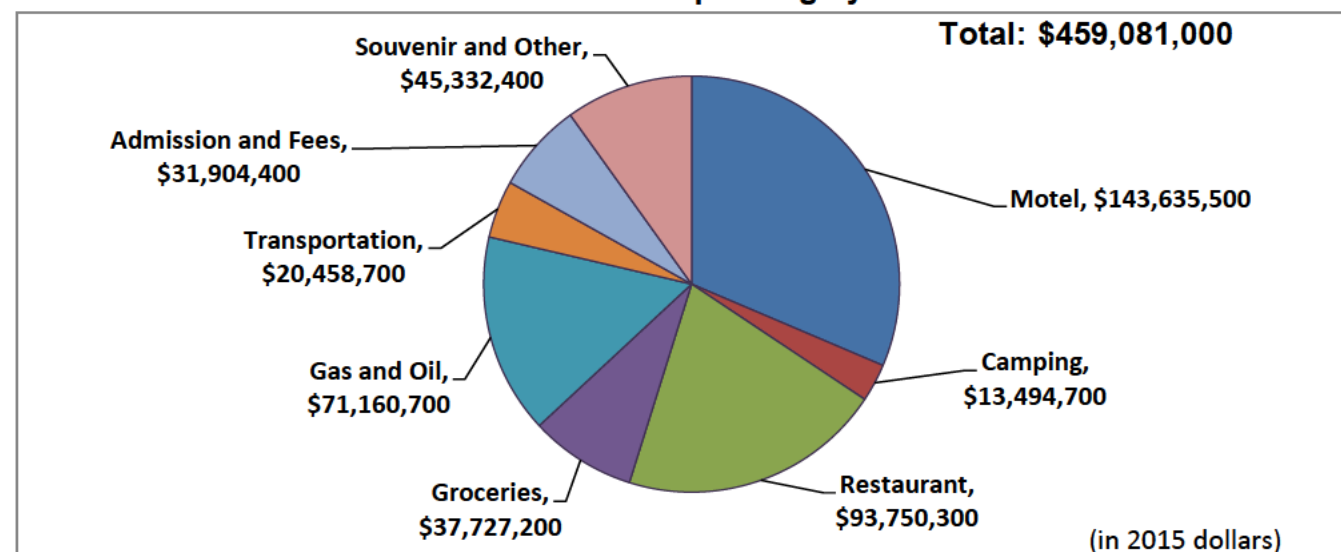


Table 1: Economic Contributions from Visitors to All Monuments and NCAs

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------------|
| Average Expenditures per Visit | \$52.94 |
| Total Expenditures | \$459,081,000 |
| Non-BLM Jobs Supported | 7,143 |
| Labor Income Supported | \$233,365,000 |
| Value Added | \$372,086,000 |
| Total Economic Output Supported | \$634,458,000 |

Table 2: Budget, Volunteer Hours, and Revenue

| | |
|----------------------------------|--------------|
| FY15 Budget | \$36,866,000 |
| Volunteer Hours (2015) | 248,582 |
| Value of Volunteer Contributions | \$5,739,351 |
| FY16 Revenue | \$7,759,404 |

Table 3: Economic Contributions in Context

| | |
|--|---------|
| Economic output supported per \$1 of FY15 budget | \$17.21 |
| Economic output supported per acre | \$51.88 |

| Table 4: Previous Year Economic Contributions | FY 2014 (in 2013 dollars) | | | | FY 2015 (in 2014 dollars) | | | |
|---|---------------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|---------------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| | Visits | Total Spending | Jobs Supported | Output Supported | Visits | Total Spending | Jobs Supported | Output Supported |
| | 7,589,205 | \$388,772,000 | 5,964 | \$514,824,000 | 8,290,612 | \$426,242,000 | 6,530 | \$570,370,000 |

Visitation and visitation growth data were gathered from Department of Interior's Recreation Management Information System, as accessed on December 2016. Visitation growth data may be based on fewer than 15 years due to data unavailability. Acreage, budget, and volunteer hours are as reported in BLM FY15 Managers' Reports. The value of volunteer contributions was calculated using state-by-state value per hour of volunteer time from Independent Sector estimates. Economic contributions results were estimated by assigning visitor characteristics and spending patterns based on visitor surveys of the nearest National Park Service unit (Thomas and Koontz 2015). Contribution results were calculated from IMPLAN economic modeling software. Total expenditures, labor income, value added, and economic output have been rounded to the nearest thousand, and sector expenditures are rounded to the nearest hundred.